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REMARKS

9374496405

Claims 1-2 and 4-23 remain pending in the present application. By the present amendment, claims 1, 4, and 17 have been amended, and claim 3 has been canceled.

Both of the currently pending independent claims have been amended to incorporate subject matter indicated allowable in the Office Action of November 24, 2004. Accordingly, applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. Applicant notes that the term "polishing" has been defined in the specification as encompassing a variety of polishing operations including, but not limited to, smearing, pushing, spreading, daubing, squeezing, etc.

The Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve efficiently any formal matters or to discuss any aspects of the application or of this response. Otherwise, early notification of allowable subject matter is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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